in tune with internationalisation of the economy;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Central Government in this regard;

(c) whether the exploration and exploitation of the country's oil and gas reserves should also be intensified with the help of international companies; and

(d) if so, what is Government's view in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d) The view of Assocham, as reported in the press, is that there should be a new oil and gas policy. The Government of India has decided to invite the Fourth Round of bids from international and Indian companies for intensifying exploration for oil and gas in India.

**Restructuring the air India operation Pattern**

*8. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India proposes to restructure its pattern of operations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Development of Tourism in Eastern Sector**

*9. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are Central Government's projects for developing tourism in eastern sector of the country; and

(b) what steps are being taken to increase the international flights to the eastern sector via Calcutta Airport as a necessary infrastructure for the development of tourism in that region?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Statement**

(a) The Department of Tourism has earmarked an amount of Rs. 765.25 lakhs as Central assistance for development of tourism infrastructure in the 4 eastern States of Bihar, Orissa, Sikkim and West Bengal for the year 1991-92. This includes construction of tourist complexes, yatri niwases, wayside amenities, visitor's centres, public conveniences, cafeterias, purchase of adventure equipment and production of publicity material.

(b) To increase international fights to Calcutta, the airport is always offered to foreign airlines while negotiating bilateral agreements with them. Also, compensation payable to Air India, consequent on unilateral operations by foreign airlines to Calcutta, is fixed at a lower side as compared to other airports in India.

**Improper Functioning of Air Traffic Control at Bombay airport**

*10. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem that appeared in the Times of India of the 8th August, 1991, captioned 'Strange flight control this' wherein it has been stated that air traffic control at Bombay's airport is not functioning properly;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to improve the system?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) while the functioning of the radar and the Automatic Terminal Information Service was affected by heavy rains, the defects have since been rectified.

(c) A project for modernisation of the Air Traffic Control at Bombay and Delhi has already been approved.

**संसद् सदस्यों की सिफारिश पर रसोई गैस के कनेक्शन**

*11. श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : क्या पेट्रोलियम और गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 22 जून, 1991 से 15 अगस्त, 1991 की अवधि के दौरान संसद् संसदों की सिफारिश पर जनता को दिये गये रसोई गैस कनेक्शनों की संख्या कितनी है तथा कितने संसद् सदस्यों ने ऐसे कनेक्शनों की सिफारिश की है ; और

(ख) क्या संसद् सदस्यों की सिफारिश पर रसोई गैस के कनेक्शन दिये जाने की प्रथा को बन्द कर दिया गया है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री बी० शंकरानन्द) : (क) 22 जून, 1991 से 22 अगस्त, 1991 तक राज्य सभा के 189 सदस्यों की सिफारिश पर 1315 एल पी जी कनेक्शन जारी किये गए थे।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

**Complaints against service and punctuality of Indian Airlines**

*12. SHRI RAMCHANDRAN PILLAI:

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received any complaints about the service and punctuality of Indian Air-lines; and

(b) if so, what steps Government intend to take to improve the present state of affairs?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The punctuality and passenger service of Indian Airlines are closely monitored. As a result of a number of steps taken, the situation has shown considerable improvement recently.

**Oil reserves in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh**

*13. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:-

(a) Whether it is a fact that crude oil reserves have been found in Bikaner-Nagaur basin in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to make surveys in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh to find out oil reserves there?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Crude oil has been discovered in the Bhagewala structure of the Bikaner-Nagaur basin in Rajasthan by Oil India Limited. Detailed testing of the well is yet to be undertaken.

(c) Oil is already being produced from various oil fields in Gujarat. Exploration efforts are also continuing in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.

**Full time Chairman in Airlines**

*14 SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to the answer to Unstarred question 1042 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29th July, 1991 and state:

(a) whether the Air India, Indian Airlines and Vayudoot have full time chairmen; and